

March 7, 1969

President
Martin Myerson
State University of New York at Buffalo
Buffalo, New York 14214

Dear Mr. Myerson,

I was honored and flattered to receive your telephone message about your interest in my taking an Albert Einstein Chair at Buffalo. I was also very happy to read the plans for and the accomplishments of the university as reflected in the background material that Roy Pesch sent to me at my request. The clarity of thinking and setting of purpose reflected in these documents is very impressive.

An invitation such as you presented to me could not and should not be answered in an off hand way but it should, if possible, be answered promptly to avoid unnecessary agonies on both sides of many kinds. I have given the matter very careful thought and have concluded that now and the next few years are simply not appropriate times for me to consider a move of this sort notwithstanding that the proposal is one of the most attractive I could possibly imagine.

While my decision on this point is a firm one I hope this does not deflect from the excuse to have a chance to talk to you about the development of your university and I would welcome an opportunity to meet you if we can conveniently arrange it in a course of some future visit that you may make to this area.

Sincerely yours,

Joshua Lederberg
Professor of Genetics

CC:Roy Pesch
JL/rr